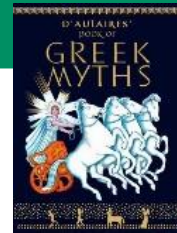


FIFTH GRADE SUGGESTIONS: WHEN TO TEACH THE THEMES



D'AULAIRES BOOK OF GREEK MYTHS
By Ingri and Edgar D'Aulaire



Theme:	When to Teach:	Explanation of Theme:
<p>CREATION IS A GIFT</p>	<p>Feast of St. Fiacre (Sept. 1st) He is the patron saint of gardeners.</p> <p>Feast of St. Francis of Assisi (Oct. 4th) He is the patron saint of ecology. In his Canticle of Creation he praises God for creation.</p> <p>Feast of St. Kateri Tekakwitha (July 14th) She was known as being a “child of nature” due to her love of nature. She was known to make crosses out of sticks.</p> <p>Change of Seasons Draw the attention of students to the beauty of creation as the seasons change.</p>	<p>All of creation is a gift from God to mankind. Through the lens of the <i>Theology of the Body</i>, we see God’s creation (animals, nature, each other, etc.) not as <i>scary</i>, but as <i>a loving gift from God</i>.</p> <p>One of the simplest prayers we can say to God is “Thank you.” There is a beautiful transformation that happens when we begin to view the world as a loving gift from God. Every raindrop, bird’s song, or rainbow is realized for what it is: <i>God’s burning desire to give good gifts to us because he loves us</i>.</p> <p>God not only gives us his beautiful creations as a gift, he gives us the ability to create. When we create artwork, poetry, and music we mirror God’s creative nature. Moms and dads image God in a special way by having babies. Procreation is a special way that God allows us to participate in the continuation of his creation!</p>
<p>GIFT-OF-SELF</p>	<p>Feast of St. Elizabeth of Hungary (Nov. 17th) She used her wealth to care for the poor by providing them food to eat. She also opened a hospital for the poor.</p>	<p>“<i>God has revealed his innermost secret: God himself is an eternal exchange of love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and has destined us to share in that exchange.</i>” (CCC 221)</p> <p>God has revealed that he is a total gift of self. Humans, both male and female, have been created in the image of God (A Total Gift of Self) and thus bear the imprint of their creator’s call to self-gift within</p>

Theme:	When to Teach:	Explanation of Theme:
<p>GIFT-OF-SELF (continued)</p>	<p>Feast of Venerable Fulton Sheen (Dec. 9th) He preached about the beauty of the Catholic faith on radio and television.</p> <p>Feasts of Sts. Cyril and Methodius (Feb. 14th) These brothers were missionaries to the Slavic people.</p> <p>Feast of St. Damien of Molokai (May 10th) He cared for those who had leprosy in Hawaii.</p>	<p>their anatomy.</p> <p>We are called to give of ourselves to others out of love. This is our purpose on Earth. St. John Paul II repeats the quote, “man cannot fully find himself except through a sincere gift of himself.” (<i>Gadium et Spes</i> 24:3) many times throughout the <i>Theology of the Body</i>. We understand that true happiness is not found in taking from others, but in the very act of giving to others out of love.</p> <p>Teachers can incorporate this fundamental truth into their everyday language by asking, “<i>Who would like to make a gift of themselves by holding the door today?</i>”</p>
<p>VIRTUE</p>	<p>Feast of St. Vincent de Paul (Sept. 27th) He displayed the virtue of charity when he spent years caring for the poor.</p> <p>Feast of St. José Sánchez del Río (Feb. 10th) As a child he displayed fortitude when the government was putting restrictions on the practice of Catholicism in Mexico. He died for refusing to deny his faith.</p> <p>Feast of St. Katharine Drexel (March 3rd) She displayed the virtue of justice when she provided appropriate education for African Americans and Native Americans.</p> <p>Feast of St. Joan of Arc (May 30th) She displayed fortitude when she listened to the Lord and led men into battle to reunite France.</p> <p>Feast of Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati (July 4th) He displayed the virtue of temperance during his life as he balanced his time being with his friends and growing in holiness through prayer and acts of service. *could teach on his birthday on April 6th</p>	<p>We often think of freedom as a right to do whatever we want. However, this narrow view of freedom often leads to addiction and slavery. True freedom finds its perfection when one chooses to do what is morally right according to God’s will.</p> <p>Freedom does involve the power to choose, but freedom is perfected by choosing the good. Choosing to do evil leads to less freedom. Choosing to do the good leads to more freedom. (See <i>Catechism of the Catholic Church</i> 1733.)</p> <p>According to the <i>Catechism of the Catholic Church</i> 1803, a virtue is a “habitual and firm disposition to do the good.” A person becomes virtuous by practicing virtues just as a person becomes physically stronger by lifting weights.</p> <p>The theological virtues are faith, hope, and charity. They are bestowed by God upon his people at baptism. The cardinal virtues of prudence, fortitude, temperance, and justice are moral virtues. (See EXPERIENCE 1 on pg. 57 for definitions of cardinal virtues as well as an activity.)</p>